

"DEATH VALLEY DAYS"

A RADIO PRODUCTION OF
McCANN • ERICKSON, INC.

285 Madison Ave. • New York, N. Y.

EPISODE NO. "THE WORLD'S BIGGEST JOB"

DATE APRIL 11, 1935

STATION W J Z

TIME 9:00 - 9:30 P.M.

Sponsored by PACIFIC COAST BORAX COMPANY

CAST

Introductory Dialogue

Announcer
Old Ranger

Main Story (1929 - 1935)

"Sagebrush Pete," a desert rat
"Desert Charlie," another prospector
A Stranger, one of a group witnessing
the "official start of
the work on Boulder Dam."
A Government Representative
John White - Cowboy Songs

*Gim Grantley
The Old Ranger*

*John White
"Lonesome Cowboy"*

Frank Butler

Milton C. Herman

John Mac Bryde

William Adams

SOUND EFFECTS

EFFECT OF GROUP OF PEOPLE OUT OF DOORS
MURMUR OF VOICES.

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BORAX COMPANY

"DEATH VALLEY DAYS"

APRIL 11, 1935

"THE WORLD'S BIGGEST JOB"

SIGNATURE:NOTES PLAYED ON
A BUGLE THE OLD MORNING CALL OF THE COVERED WAGON TRAINS, AT
FIRST CLEAR AND LOUD, THEN REPEATED FAINTER AND STILL FAINTER
AS IT IS PASSED DOWN THE LINE FROM WATCH TO WATCH ACROSS THE
PLAINS. AS IT FINALLY DIES AWAY AMONG THE ECHOES, THE
ANNOUNCER'S VOICE IS HEARD.

ANNOUNCER: As the old morning bugle call of
the covered wagon trains dies away among the
echoes, another true story of "Death Valley Days"
is brought to you by the Pacific Coast Borax
Company, producers of the famous 20 Mule Team
brand of Borax.

For over fifty years housekeepers
have used 20 Mule Team Borax to make the job of
Spring Cleaning easier and more thorough. You'll
appreciate why, when you try it.

Wash all the paint and woodwork in
your house with it. It takes off grease and
dirty finger-marks like magic. Doesn't turn white
paint yellow, either, as some strong soaps do.
Scrub the porcelain and tile with it to remove
all stains. Launder your curtains with it, to
soak out the accumulation of winter soot and
dust and leave them sweet and fresh. Wash your
winter blankets with it before you put them away
for the summer. It will keep them as soft and

ANNOUNCER: (CONT'D)

bright and fluffy as when they were new. Scrub shelves and closets and cupboards with it. It's like turning sunshine into all the dark corners of your house.

20 Mule Team Borax is easy on your hands. Far from making them rough and red, it actually acts as a skin softener and gentle bleach. Many skin specialists urge women who have sensitive skins to use Borax products exclusively, because they are so soothing and healing.

Both your grocer and druggist carry 20 Mule Team. Lay in a generous supply now for the job of Spring Cleaning.

And now for the Old Ranger. His story tonight is of more than usual interest.. a story that should stir every American... man, woman and child. It is the story of the building of Boulder Dam in the desert near Death Valley.. "The World's Biggest Job."

OLD RANGER (INTERPOLATES) He's referrin' to the Dam...not my story.

OTHERS CHUCKLE

OLD RANGER Though I don't mind admittin' that the tellin' of this story is jest about the biggest job I've tackled since I started broadcastin'.

ANNOUNCER You're equal to it, Old Ranger.

"The World's Biggest Job"

(4)

OLD RANGER (SERIOUSLY) I hope so. 'Cause I want so to do it justice. I want so to have all of you who are listenin' tonight feel somethin' of what I've felt as I've seen Boulder Dam in the makin'. The wonder ... the pride ... yes, an' the humility that any human bein' must feel in the presence of such a colossal undertakin'. You've all of you read articles about Boulder Dam. You've seen photographs of it. You've heard statistics quoted. Staggerin' statistics. A few of you ... a very fortunate few ... have actually been there an' seen the Dam itself. Many of you ... most of you, I hope ... will be goin' there to see it some time in the future. When you do, I don't want you to be like lots of the tourists who'll go there. They'll drive across the Dam on the broad highway that runs along its crest ... gaze out over the great shinin' lake on one side ... peer down on the roofs of the power houses on the other side ... take out their cameras an' snap a picture or two ... an' drive on, satisfied that they have "done" Boulder Dam. I want you folks, when you go there, to see far more than that. I want, if I can, to make you able to picture the buildin' of the Dam ... to see in your mind's eye what lies buried beneath that vast sheet of water ... to imagine what all that country was like before men an' machinery started in on "The World's biggest job."

OLD RANGER: (CONT'D)

Picture to yourselves a land of sand an' sagebrush an' shimmerin' mirages ... inhabited only by a few solitary prospectors. A land of silence, of desolation. And winding its way through this desert the Colorado River ... a sullen, coffee-colored stream between black canyon walls. "The Dragon of the West" ... for centuries a river of mystery and dread. Unconquered. Unconquerable. At least, so everybody said. And Pete believed 'em. Pete ... "Sagebrush Pete," as he was called ... was an old prospector who had lived for more than fifty years near the "Big Bend" of the Colorado. Once in a while Pete took his burros an' went to the town of Las Vegas, some thirty-odd miles away, for supplies. The rest of the time he seen nobody from one month's end to the next, except when some stray desert rat happened to pass by his lonely little shack. One blisterin' day in early July, 1929, a Prospector by the name of "Desert Charlie" stopped there to fill up his canteen ...

CUT BACK TO MAIN STORY (JULY, 1929)

PETE Headin' for Vegas?

CHARLIE Jest come from there.

PETE Oh. Any excitement there these days?

CHARLIE Plenty.

PETE (INTERESTEDLY) Yeah?

CHARLIE They're all het up, the folks of Vegas is, about this dam business.

PETE What dam business?

CHARLIE President Hoover come out with a proclamation a few days ago ... sayin' that the Government was goin' to go ahead an' build a dam out here across the Colorado.

PETE (DISAPPOINTED) Oh. Is that all?

CHARLIE All? Say, you ought to read what the Vegas papers say about it! They say it's the biggest thing that's ever happened in the West ... bigger'n any gold strike! It's goin' to put Vegas on the map, they say ... bring business an'...

PETE They ought to know better by now than to get excited about that.

CHARLIE But...

PETE This dam talk ... (With a dry chuckle) dam fool talk, if you ask me... has been goin' on for years. Ever since I can remember ... an' that's a long time back ... men have been dreamin' about dammin' up the Colorado ... Pipe dreams!

CHARLIE Well, looks like their dreams is comin' true at last.

PETE Don't you believe it. Newspaper talk.

CHARLIE There's a bunch of engineers in Vegas already. Government fellers.

PETE They've sent out engineers from Washington before. Plenty o' times. I know. I've seen 'em. They been right past this shack o' mine. They come out here an' stay a few days or a few weeks ... lookin' the ground over ... an' then go back home again with a report big enough to choke a mule

PETE (CONT'D) with. An' that's the last you ever hear of it. Till some-
thin' starts Congress rowin' about it all over again.

CHARLIE (PERSISTS) But this time the President himself...

PETE Listen, brother ... Hoover ain't the first. Cal. Coolidge,
he tried to push it through. He even signed some kind of a
bill.... an' Teddy Roosevelt ... why, way back when he was
in the White House they was agitatin' about it. Teddy
went before Congress himself ... in person ... an' asked
'em to give him \$500,000, so's he could send engineers out
here to survey the Colorado an' see what could be done
about buildin' a dam across it ... (SNORTS) \$500,000! Say
... for five dollars I could've told 'em it wasn't no use!
It can't be done!

CHARLIE But....

PETE (FLATLY) Nobody's ever succeeded in tamin' the old Col-
orado. An' nobody ever will.

CHARLIE Uncle Sam's done some mighty wonderful engineerin' jobs.
The Panama Canal....

PETE (SNORTS) Buildin' the Panama Canal ain't one-two-three
with buildin' a dam across the Colorado! All they was up
against down there was mosquitoes an' ... an' a few land-
slides! What's that compared with the trouble they'd run
into if they tried to tackle the Colorado?

CHARLIE (MILDLY) Hoover's an engineer himself. It don't seem
likely he'd okay the thing ... an' tell 'em to go ahead
with it ... if it couldn't be done.

PETE Politics. That's what it is. Politics. You mark my words, it'll never go through.

CHARLIE They've got the site all picked out.

PETE Whereabouts?

CHARLIE Some place in Black Canyon.

PETE (EXCLAIMS) Black Canyon!

CHARLIE Jest about a mile from here.

PETE You're tellin' me where Black Canyon is? Me... who's been prospectin' around here for more'n fifty years...

CHARLIE Well, I....

PETE I know every bend an' every canyon along the Colorado... all the way from the Arizona line down to Needles..!

CHARLIE Well, Black Canyon's the place they've picked.

PETE (DEMANDS) How in the world do they ever imagine they're goin' to build a dam there?

CHARLIE Don't ask me. It wasn't my bright idea.

PETE Have you ever seen Black Canyon?

CHARLIE Don't reckon so.

PETE Well, I have. Many's the time I've stood on the rim of that canyon an' looked down. It's a thousand feet deep at least ... an' the walls is straight up an' down. From below it looks even deeper an' steeper. I crossed over once on the old ferry when she was still runnin'. I'll never forget it...lookin' up from that racin', surrlin' muddy water ... up hundreds of feet of sheer black rock ... up an' up an' up ... (BREAKS OFF) It's took the Colorado some

PETE (CONT'D) millions of years to carve out that canyon.. That's what the geology fellers say, an' I reckon they know... Do you think for a minute she's goin' to let a bunch o' men come along an' dam up what it's took her millions of years to break down?

CHARLIE The Colorado won't have nothin' to say about it.

PETE (OMINOUSLY) The Colorado has always had somethin' to say ... when anybody's come too close to suit her.

CHARLIE But...

PETE She's treacherous, the Old Dragon is. You can't trust her. She lays low ... she fools folks into thinkin' she's safe an' ... an' friendly like other rivers ... an' then the minute they're off their guard she rises up an' lashes at 'em... with flood an' fury... Sucks 'em down... batters 'em to pieces ... wipes 'em out ... (DARKLY) Your desert rat knows better than to monkey with the Colorado. Uncle Sam had better learn the same. Leave her alone. That's what I say. Leave the Colorado alone.

FADE SCENE

INTERLUDE. WESTERN SONG WITH GUITAR

OLD RANGER RESUMES NARRATIVE

OLD RANGER Fifty summers had old Sagebrush Pete lived out there in the Nevada Desert near the Big Bend of the Colorado. Fifty summers ... alone ... the only human bein' in a world of sun an' sand an' silence. But in the summer of 1929 that

OLD RANGER (CONT'D) silence was broken. Other men appeared. Not ploddin' prospectors, like himself, with burros... but keen-lookin' young men in khaki breeches an' high-laced boots ... an' wearin' funny-lookin' helmets like you see in pictures of big game hunters... They come out across the desert from Las Vegas in automobiles... where only burros had traveled before... an' camped by the Colorado. Pete could see 'em from a distance. Watch 'em clamberin' around.. riskin' their lives on the canyon walls...an' on the racin' surrlin' waters below... From his shack he could hear their voices... shoutin' orders ... callin' out answers ... Hear 'em laughin' sometimes, too. They filled Pete with a vague uneasiness, these strangers ... with their automobiles an' their surveyin' instruments an' their air of ownin' the place... This was his desert ... Hadn't he lived here for more'n fifty years...? The months went by. Another summer rolled around. One day in September, 1930 the 17th of September, to be exact .. Pete was makin' one of his rare visits to Las Vegas for supplies ... A few miles from Vegas he come upon a crowd of folks along the railroad track...an' edged up to 'em.

CUT BACK TO MAIN STORY (SEPTEMBER, 1930)

EFFECT OF GROUP OF PEOPLE OUT OF DOORS. MURMUR OF VOICES.

PETE (EDGING UP CURIOUSLY) What's happened? An accident?

STRANGER (LAUGHS) Hardly. It's a ceremony.

PETE Ceremony... ?

STRANGER (POINTING) See that fellow over there... the one in the gray hat ... talking to the man with the camera...

PETE Yeah...

STRANGER That's Ray Lyman Wilbur.

PETE Willrer...? Willrer...?

STRANGER Secretary of the Interior.

PETE Oh!

STRANGER If you'd come along five minutes earlier you'd have been here in time to see him drive a silver spike into the railroad.

PETE (BLANKLY) What did he do that for?

STRANGER (LAUGHS) To signalize the official start of work on the Dam.

PETE You mean...?

STRANGER Boulder Dam. Don't tell me you're a native around here and don't know about Boulder Dam.

PETE Sure. I...I've heard. But...the river's miles from here. What's drivin' a silver spike into a railroad got to do with the Dam?

STRANGER Everything. I don't mean the silver spike ... but the railroad. Before they can start actually working on the Dam itself they've got to build a railroad out there...In fact, two railroads.. The Union Pacific's building this branch line.. some twenty-two miles.. as far as Boulder City.. And Uncle Sam's going to build another railroad from Boulder City to the site of the Dam... another ten miles...

PETE (BLANKLY) Boulder City! Where in blazes is Boulder City?

STRANGER (LAUGHS) On paper ... at the present moment.

PETE What are you talkin' about?

STRANGER It's all planned out, to the last detail. But they haven't broken ground yet. It's going to be quite a city...they're figuring on a population of around six thousand, they say.. that's going some for the desert...

PETE (BEWILDERED) A city of six thousand. Where?

STRANGER They've picked out a site about twenty two miles east of here... A wonderful location, I understand.. good high elevation...

PETE (DAZED) I don't savvy... What are they doin' it for? Who's goin' to live there? Who are all these six thousand folks you're talkin' about?

STRANGER The men who'll build the Dam, of course. The workmen and engineers and government officials.. and their families... Those of 'em who have families...

PETE (ENLIGHTENED) Oh. A construction camp!

STRANGER (LAUGHS) Yes. But like no other construction camp you ever saw or heard of. The most elaborate and amazing

STRANGER (CONT'D)

construction camp in the world. A real model city ...
with wide streets and fine shops ... a theatre and churches
and good schools... green lawns and trees...

PETE I thought you was ribbin' me. Now I know it.

STRANGER Every word I'm telling you is true.

PETE (INCREDULOUSLY) Green lawns an' trees in the desert...?

STRANGER Yes sir! You just wait and see.

PETE I'll have a good long wait.

STRANGER Not so very long. It won't take 'em more'n a few months,
once they get started. The whole thing's all planned and
laid out, you see...

PETE You talk like they was jest goin' to wave a magic wand and
it'd appear, right out of the desert.

STRANGER Oh, it'll take lots of men and money.

PETE Plenty o' money, I'd say.

STRANGER They've appropriated some two million dollars for it.

PETE For the Dam, you mean?

STRANGER (LAUGHS) No. For Boulder City.

PETE (GASPS) You mean to tell me that the... the construction
camp alone is goin' to cost two million dollars?

STRANGER At least that.

PETE (DEMANDS) Why in heck are they spendin' that much money
jest to make a gang of coolies comfortable?

STRANGER They're not using coolie labor.

PETE Mexicans, then.

STRANGER Boulder Dam is going to be built by American workmen.
White men.

PETE They're crazy if they think white men can stand it workin'
in the desert in the summer. I'm an old desert rat. I
know what it's like. Why even the Injuns moves out...

STRANGER These men will have air-cooled buildings to live in.

PETE Desert air durin' the summer never cooled no buildin'.
Your temperature's around 125...

STRANGER The air will be artificially cooled...

PETE (BLANKLY) Oh.

STRANGER So their living quarters will be comfortable no matter how
hot it is outside. Don't you see?

PETE (MUTTERS TO HIMSELF) No. I don't see. I don't savvy
none of it. Silver spikes in railroads.. cities springin'
up out of the desert overnight.. green lawns an' trees...
buildin's kept nice an' cool when it's 125 in the shade...
All jest as a starter for puttin' up a dam across the old
Colorado... It don't make sense. I tell you, it don't
make sense.

FADE SCENE

INTERLUDE. WESTERN SONG WITH GUITAR

OLD RANGER RESUMES NARRATIVE.

OLD RANGER Old Pete continued to mutter that it didn't make sense... as he saw miles of shinin' steel rails flung across the desert...saw Boulder City rise from the barren sand, a miracle of white an' green.... saw a broad highway wind its scenic route from Boulder City to the canyon...saw fleets of motor transports carryin' their loads of workmen each day from dormitories an' mess halls down to the river workings.... It none of it "made sense" to the simple old prospector. It invaded his world... turned it upside down.. to what an extent even he himself didn't realize, till one day when a representative of the United States Government called on him in his little shack.

CUT BACK TO MAIN STORY

PETE (QUEERLY) You ... you're goin' to put me off my ground?

OFFICIAL (KINDLY) We're going to buy your ground from you, Pete.
And pay you generously for it, what's more.

PETE But... I can't see what you'd want it for. It's jest a little one-man claim ... It don't amount to nothin'....

OFFICIAL The government isn't buying it for mining purposes.

PETE Then...why? I ain't in your way, am I?

OFFICIAL All this country around here, Pete, is going to be inundated.

PETE (BLANKLY) In...In...?

OFFICIAL That means flooded. Under water.

PETE Huh?

OFFICIAL This place where we're sitting talking right now will one day be at the bottom of a great lake.. the largest artificial lake in the world.

PETE (BEWILDERED) I ... I don't savvy ... A lake...

OFFICIAL A reservoir, really. Boulder Reservoir...

PETE I still don't savvy...

OFFICIAL (KINDLY) Then let me try and explain it to you. For we want you to savvy. You, and all the other folks who are going to be affected by this. We don't want you to feel you're being driven out by some arbitrary unreasonable power...

PETE There's others besides me, then?

OFFICIAL Plenty of others. This reservoir... this lake... will cover hundreds of square miles ... When Boulder Dam is finished, the waters of the Colorado will back up....

PETE (BREAKS IN) And drown us all out! I might've knowed the Old Dragon would do somethin' like that! (EARNESTLY) Mister, this little shack of mine has stood here for over fifty years....

OFFICIAL (KINDLY) There are buildings that have stood for generations, Pete, that will have to go. Buildings that have been in existence for thousands of years....

PETE (BLANKLY) Wh...What?

OFFICIAL The ruins of that prehistoric city in the desert north of here... the famous "Lost City"...

PETE The one them archeology fellers dug up?

OFFICIAL Yes. The city of some ancient civilization... built 2,000 years before Christ... that's doomed to disappear again... Not under sand this time, but under hundreds of feet of water...Doomed to disappear forever.

PETE (AWED) Gosh!

OFFICIAL The whole village of St. Thomas is to go...

PETE (EXCLAIMS) St. Thomas! But that's more'n a hundred miles from here! That's nowheres near the Colorado!

OFFICIAL The waters of the Colorado will bury it just the same... This lake will reach up as far as Kaolin on the Muddy River... We've bought up all the ranches along the Virgin River.. They'll be flooded, too.... Old Fort Callville.. you know, the old Mormon outpost up by the Big Bend... That will be swallowed up... In a few years all this country will be covered with water..

PETE (MUTTERS) It don't make sense.

OFFICIAL Why do you say that?

PETE A lake... more'n a hundred miles long ... an' hundreds of feet deep... out here in the Nevada Desert where men an' animals has always died of thirst... where you're lucky if you get enough rainfall to make a puddle... A lake...! Next thing I know they'll be growin' gardens out here an' ... an' holdin' boatraces...!

OFFICIAL (LAUGHS) I don't know about the boat races... though there's no telling... But you're right about the gardens... That's just what this great reservoir is going to mean... Gardens... orchards.. green pastures... The water from this lake will irrigate some two million acres of land in the Southwest... land that's now parched and useless. It'll transform great stretches of dry desert into rich, fertile, productive land... Where people can live and raise crops.. that's why your home has to be sacrificed, Pete.. for the sake of thousands of other homes ... future homes... for the sake of millions of other people...

PETE (SLOWLY) I begin to savvy...

OFFICIAL I'm glad you do.

PETE (SLOWLY) So that's why they're buildin' Boulder Dam.... to give folks water...

OFFICIAL That's only one of the reasons. It's being built to control floods... to put an end to the terrible ravages of the Colorado... that have cost the country so many millions in the past... It'll do more than that. It'll take that furious force... that wild untamed power ... and harness it ...turn it into electric energy ... energy for great modern industries. When Boulder Dam is built, the Colorado River will for the first time in history be working for the benefit of man ... not for his destruction.

PETE (HUMBLY) It does make sense. (PAUSES) How soon do you want me to move out, Mister?

OFFICIAL (WITH A KINDLY LAUGH) Boulder Dam won't be finished for a long time. Not for several years, at least.

PETE Then I can stay around a while?

OFFICIAL By all means. Stay around. Stay and see "the world's biggest job" in the making.

PETE Thank you, Mister.

FADE SCENE

OLD RANGER RESUMES NARRATIVE

OLD RANGER I don't believe that any of the men who worked on Boulder Dam took a greater interest in it than did old Sagebrush Pete from that day on. He watched it at every stage of its progress ... an' from every angle. He watched them bore huge tunnels through the solid rock walls of the canyons. The largest tunnels ever dug by man. So large that a four-story buildin' could be moved through any one of 'em without scrapin' its roof. He watched with awe while a huge blast literally "kicked the river out of its bed" an' sent it racin' into these great diversion tunnels ... around the site of the future Dam.

From the rim of the canyon he stood an' looked down on the dry river bottom -- Dry for the first time in nobody knows how many thousand years. Watched the ceaseless activity goin' on down there... the never-endin' stream of trucks... the crews of men with power shovels, diggin'.... diggin' down 135 feet through the silt that had been deposited on

OLD RANGER (CONT'D)

the river bottom through countless ages...diggin' down to bedrock where the Dam was to rest. Like ants they looked like down there...a vast arena of scurryin' ants... He watched the high-scalers at work. The daredevils of Boulder Dam. Young fellers with bronzed bodies an' no nerves... walkin' on vertical cliffs... swingin' hundreds of feet by a slender rope above sure death. The high-scalers...chippin' away the weathered rock from the canyon walls, that the Dam might rest against live solid stone. He watched the Sky Riders ...crews of men bein' shunted back an' forth by cable across a 900 foot chasm.... Takin' that dizzy ride out into space as jest a part of the day's work. He was there, Old Sagebrush Pete was, that day in June, 1933, when the first bucketful of concrete was poured ... the signal that work on Boulder Dam proper had at last begun. From that moment on the barrage of concrete never once stopped. Day an' night the mixers turned it out... the huge buckets traveled to the rim of the canyon... were picked up an' carried out into space by cable ... dumped ... an' returned for another load. Seven million tons of concrete...poured without a pause, for twenty months ... Under the blazin' desert sun ... durin' the blackest nights. There was no differ-

OLD RANGER (CONT'D)

ence between night and day ... When the sun went down beyond the Nevada rim, dozens of batteries of flood-lights was turned on the Dam. Slowly Pete could see it rear itself between the canyon walls. Slowly.. fifty feet... a hundred ... two hundred ... five hundred ... While men swarmed over it ... infinitesimal black specks against that great surface. Sometimes Pete left the canyon to watch what was goin' on in the big industrial plants set up nearby to serve the Dam. The fabricatin' plant for steel pipe ... pipe so large that no railway could carry its separate sections. There, in a huge shed, flarin' like some strange inferno, he watched little men with dark glasses over their eyes, build pipe ... every piece of which could hold a locomotive inside of it. He was on hand, Pete was, on Washington's Birthday of this year, when the last bucketful of concrete was poured into the last mold on the crest of the Dam... 730 feet above the river bed. The largest dam in the world. He saw the diversion tunnels closed. Saw the water begin to form at last behind the Dam.

CUT BACK TO MAIN STORY (MARCH, 1935)

OFFICIAL Well, Pete...

PETE (SLOWLY) So...it's finished.

OFFICIAL Not finished by a long sight. It'll be another year and a half before it's really finished.... the stagings down,

OFFICIAL (CONT'D)

the building machinery all moved away, and the whole system at work.

PETE You can begin to see the end, though.

OFFICIAL Yes. Eighteen months ahead of schedule, too.

PETE You can see the water risin'. Last week it was jest a puddle... Today it's a small pond... By next week it'll begin to look like a real lake.

OFFICIAL Yes.

PETE (STARING OUT ACROSS DESERT) Already the land is disappearin'... Them lowlands jest above the old ferry ... they're gone ... Soon them hilltops yonder will be islands ... I suppose everybody's closed out up north o' here...

OFFICIAL Yes. St. Thomas is a ghost village. The ranches are all deserted.

PETE I reckon I'll have to be pullin' up stakes myself pretty soon.

OFFICIAL Your shack's on fairly high ground. It should be another few months before the water reaches there..

PETE (SLOWLY) You know how I feel....? I feel like old Noah must've felt when he watched the waters risin' up an' swallowin' the earth...

OFFICIAL (WITH A LITTLE LAUGH) Noah never saw anything like what you've seen, Pete, these past few years... You've seen something that very few human beings have been privileged to see ... Something greater than the building of the

OFFICIAL (CONT'D)

Pyramids of Egypt or the Great Wall of China...

PETE How long'll it last, do you suppose?

OFFICIAL Boulder Dam?

PETE Yes. Hundreds o' years?

OFFICIAL Barring some great cataclysm, Pete, it'll be standing here thousands of years from now.

PETE (AWED) Gosh!

OFFICIAL When this civilization that you and I are a part of have disappeared from the earth ... when our race is as dead and gone as that ancient race that flourished in the Lost City up north of here ... perhaps then Boulder Dam will begin to crumble.

PETE (MURMURS IN AWE-STRUCK VOICE)

OFFICIAL And then, after more thousands of years, when savages will have become scientists and archeologists will dig again in Nevada, volumes will be written about this Dam ... the greatest feat in dam engineering that the world has ever known. And men will stand here, where we are standing, and marvel all over again...

PETE (SOFTLY) At what God and man have wrought.

FADE SCENE

ANNOUNCER The program which you have just heard is another broadcast of "Death Valley Days," presented for your enjoyment by the Pacific Coast Borax Company, producers of the famous 20 Mule Team brand of Borax. The Old Ranger has asked me to add - for the information of any of you who may wonder why the story of Boulder Dam should come under the heading

ANNOUNCER (CONT'D)

of "Death Valley Days" - that Boulder Dam is only a few hours motor trip from Death Valley over fine modern roads. So when you plan to visit one of these places - next fall or winter perhaps - it will be easy to take in the other at the same time. One of the most important year 'round uses for Borax is in caring for your icebox. Unless an icebox is kept scrupulously clean, you know how quickly food in it spoils or absorbs a disagreeable taste. For economy's sake ... as well as for health reasons ... scrub your icebox regularly inside and out with warm water and 20 Mule Team Borax. Borax dissolves grease and dirt like magic ... destroys all odors ... and leaves everything hygienically pure, clean and sweet. If you have an automatic refrigerator, be sure to wash your ice cube trays, too, with a solution of Borax. You'll find 20 Mule Team Borax for sale at your grocers and druggists. When you buy look for the familiar 20 Mule Team trademark so you can be sure that you are getting the same fine pure grade of Borax that has been famous for the past fifty years. Next week, by popular request, the Old Ranger will again broadcast a description of the first Easter Sunrise Service held on the sand dunes of Death Valley. The program will include special music. We hope you will all be with us to hear it.

ARTISTS

"Old Ranger" ... T. Daniel Frawley; "Sagebrush Pete" ... Jack MacBryde; "Stranger" ... Frank Butler; "Desert Charlie" ... Milton Herman; "Government Representative" ... William Adams; "Lonesome Cowboy" ... John White.